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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Technology Center 2100

In re the application of: Edward Gendelman

Serial Number: 09/848,090

Art Unit: 2164

Filed: May 2, 2001

Examiner: Steven Wasyscha

For: PROCESS FOR PACKAGING AND SECURITIZATION OF FUTURE CRUDE
OIL AND NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION STREAMS

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF A PETITION TO MAKE
SPECIAL UNDER 37 CFR 1.102(c)**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This request is for reconsideration to make the subject patent application special under 37 CFR 1.102(c). A petition to make special was filed in the Patent Office on November 8th, 2001. On February 5th, 2002, the petition was denied.

In denying the petition, the special programs examiner stated "The petition does not meet the requirements for special status in that there is no persuasive showing that the invention *materially contributes* to the discovery, development, conservation or more efficient utilization of energy resources as required in (A) or (B)." The applicant and the undersigned respectfully do not agree. The subject invention in fact does greatly contribute to the discovery and development of energy resources.

The business of discovering and developing crude oil and natural gas is very capital intensive. At the same time, oil and gas producers often have limited options as to financing their exploration and field development, monetizing their assets and risk managing oil and gas production. This is especially true for smaller companies and those working outside North America. The financing costs oftentimes exceed 15%, even in today's low interest rate environment. Therefore, the subject securitization process greatly broadens the producers' financing and risk management capabilities and in many cases provides them with an opportunity to access financial markets at credit ratings higher than their corporate ratings. The redeployment of capital will lead to more aggressive and extensive exploration and drilling programs, which will undoubtedly contribute to the discovery and development of additional energy resources.

Taking as an illustration a conservative assumption of a 20% increase in deployed capital by a small oil company drilling 15 to 20 exploration and development wells per year, will result in 3 to 5 additional wells per year. Using this number of additional wells multiplied by hundreds of small oil companies, thousands of additional wells will be drilled each year, which will directly and materially contribute to the discovery and development of additional energy resources.

The new securitization process has everything to do with helping small and medium size oil and gas producers look for, discover and develop new oil and gas fields. This is extremely important because of our countries continued reliance on importing oil from outside the United States, particularly from the Middle East.

According, it is respectfully submitted that the new securitization process described in the application does *materially contribute* to oil and gas producers exploring for, discovering and developing additional energy resources.

Based on the above remarks, it is now urged that the special programs examiner accept the petition to make special and advance the application for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

Edwin H. Crabtree

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington,

D.C. 20231, on March 22, 2002.

Date: 3/22/02 Edwin H. Crabtree
Applicant's Attorney